

甕裡的滋味

Flavors in the Urns

儲藏的是先民的智慧
品嚐的是勤儉的滋味...

What is stored is the wisdom of our forefathers

What is tasted is the flavor of hard work and thrift



陶瓷具有堅固耐用的特質，是日常生活中的必備器皿，也因此生活陶成為陶瓷的一個重要門類，具有悠遠的歷史。在中國漢民族的陶瓷發展史中，生活陶尤其伴隨著常民飲食與生活文化，發展出多樣的形制，舉凡缸、甕、鉢、罐、壺等儲存器皿，以及碗、盤、湯匙、茶具等餐具，都是傳統生活中不可或缺的用品。其中，缸與甕不但是生活陶家族中體積最大的器皿，而且歷史相當悠久，與中國五千年來豐富的飲食與生活文化連袂發展。

台灣早期為農業社會，自大陸渡海來台的先民們胼手胝足，克勤克儉，從飲食、住居、觀賞到祭祀活動，在樸實的生活中使用著各種價廉耐用的陶瓷器具。在這段尚無家電用品與自來水的傳統歲月中，為儲存各式糧食以備不時之需，常在牆邊、屋角放置著許多缸與甕，而每一個缸與甕中都增長著不同而豐美的滋味。如此，形成了古早台灣一股相當迷人的民間情調。

Pottery vessels are sturdy and durable and serve as important household containers. As such household pottery has become an extremely important area of ceramics, with a long and glorious history. If we look at the development of pottery among the Han people in China it is clear that household pottery is intimately connected to food and life culture of ordinary people. As a result there have been a variety of interesting storage containers, including vats, urns, jars, pots and cutlery such as bowls, plates and spoons, tea sets. All of these were indispensable items in traditional life. Of these vats and urns were not only the largest household pottery containers, they also have a long history and have developed alongside the rich food and life culture of China over the last 5,000 years.

Taiwan was an agricultural society in early stage. People, coming to Taiwan across the Taiwan Strait, worked hard for their life. They lived diligently and austerity. In their plain daily life the low cost and durable utensils were applied. From the culinary, living to ornament containers there were all kinds of vats, urns, jars, plates, flower vases, sensors, and worship gods' containers made from ceramics. In the years of no electric home appliances and the tap water, various vats and urns standing by the walls or corners of the houses were used to store their food. Inside the vats and urns specific flavored foods were growing. That is the fascinating atmosphere of old Taiwan.



如何區分「缸」、「甕」、「罐」？

缸、甕、罐都是常見的儲存器皿，相同的是其器腹可以容納物品，而且上方有開口，方便拿取。一般來說，缸的器腹鼓大、器口開廣，體積較大；甕的形制稍小，器腹上下呈橢圓形，器口狹窄；罐又比甕小(高度約三十公分以下)，器腹成長寬相當的圓形或圓柱形。但是事實上民間在名稱的用法上並不嚴謹，界線很模糊，因此米缸常被稱為米甕，而罐與甕之間互用的情況更是常見。

